
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6660

AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Superior Court to allow a defendant who is the parent or guardian of a minor child to submit a family impact statement, which the judge must consider before sentencing. The defendant must have physical custody of the minor child and be convicted of a criminal offense for which a prison sentence may be imposed.

The bill allows such defendant to use the family impact statement to address the impact imprisonment would have on the child and other family members. This may include:

1. the impact on the financial needs of the child and other family members,
2. the relationship between the defendant and the child,
3. the availability of community and family support for the child,
4. the defendant's employment history and available employment opportunities,
5. programs available to rehabilitate the defendant if he or she is not sentenced to imprisonment,
6. the seriousness of the offense, and
7. the defendant's criminal history.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 34 Nay 10 (04/12/2013)